

war, both for ourselves and for our allies, is absolutely dependent upon this. There is no military necessity which is more important than the maintenance of a healthy people. War but serves to increase the importance of health and doubles the responsibility which is placed upon us as the health wardens of the general public. Aside from this, the collection and movement of large bodies of men, which, in the beginning at least, will consist largely of raw, irresponsible levies, the increased speed and pressure which will be demanded of labor, the relative scarcity and consequent rise in prices of the necessities of life, all will but serve to make the sanitary problem more difficult. Already, a considerable number of medical men engaged in the practice of sanitation have been commissioned. Large numbers of sanitary engineers have taken service in the engineer corps. This means that an additional burden has already been thrown on the remaining sanitarians. This requires increased vigilance of those who have not entered the strictly military services, and but serves to accentuate the importance of the sanitarian who stays at home.

That this war may bring forth hitherto undreamed of sanitary problems is entirely probable. Many of these problems will have a direct bearing upon the health of armed troops; others will be related to the health of the industrial forces which must be maintained in order that the fighting man may be fed and at the same time spared the danger of communicable disease from the civil community. When these special problems arise, trained specialists will be required to solve them. The sanitation of food supplies alone may require the combined services of several laboratories. The problems of alcohol and the venereal diseases, the control of tuberculosis, typhoid, and particularly measles, may, in certain instances, tax very heavily civilian health agencies.

No practising sanitarian who, by reason of age or physical incapacity, is obliged to stay at home, need feel himself a "slacker" if he discharges thoroughly the duties of his position. There is work enough to go around with the Army, the Navy, and the Public Health Service. Until we are called to the colors, however, let us bend our every effort to the promotion of the public health, in the full realization of its vital necessity at the present time. The destructive side of war must of necessity go forward, but in the excitement of military preparation let us not forget that it is health and the other constructive forces of the body politic which will win this war.

### **Herbert W. Conn, Ph. D.**

Born January 10, 1859. Died April 18, 1917.

Prof. Herbert W. Conn of Middletown, Conn., died April 18, 1917. Doctor Conn was Professor of Biology, Wesleyan University, and in this connection organized the State Board of Health Laboratory in 1905 and continued as its director until the time of his death. In March, 1911, he was appointed by the New York Milk Committee as a member of the National Commission on Milk Standards and since then has given freely of his time and talents to the work of this commission. His interest in milk as a scientist was exceeded only by his humanitarian interest in standardizing milk to prevent unnecessary loss of infant life.

He was a director and a member of the Executive Committee of the American Public Health Association, and was affiliated with many other scientific organizations.

As a man of sterling character, as a pioneer health worker and as a scientist of national repute, we deeply mourn his loss.